



*Fall
2003*



HOOSIER SAFETY

A Publication of
The Indiana State Emergency Management Agency
and Department of Fire and Building Services

2003 Emergency Medical Services Commission Awards

Annual Awards Presented During The Indiana Emergency Response Conference Banquet

The Indiana Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Commission held its awards ceremony during the Emergency Response conference at the Marriott Hotel Downtown Indianapolis Saturday September 20, 2003, celebrating 27 years of EMS in Indiana. Twenty-six individuals, agencies and companies were honored for their contributions to Emergency Response and Emergency Medical Services in Indiana.

OTIS R. BOWEN, M.D. HEROIC RESCUE AWARD

**WINNERS: EMT JAMES SARGENT AND
FIRST RESPONDER JOHN WEBER OF
EATON EMS INC., EATON, INDIANA.**
Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana.

This award is given in recognition of an event that demonstrates a degree of courage and

bravery, while at the same time showing an understanding of the seriousness of the situation and the risks involved.

On July 13, 2003, James and John distinguished themselves in a life-saving water rescue from a retention pond near an assisted living center, in Delaware County.





LARRY W. MYERS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR PROFESSIONALISM AND MENTAL ATTITUDE

**WINNERS: DANA L. DUGAN AND
VICKI L. RUSH OF RURAL METRO
AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Sponsored by the Indiana Ambulance Association. The *Larry Myers Memorial Award* was established in 1980 in memory of Larry Myers, the first president and one of the founding

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Indiana Declared Disaster Area for Floods...Again

For the second time this year, and fourth time in two years, Indiana was declared a federal disaster area in September. This time torrential rains, mixed with high winds and small tornadoes, fell over the central part of the state over the Labor Day weekend.

Some areas received eight to 10 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Indianapolis recorded its greatest daily rainfall amount in 108 years of record keeping. Neighborhoods that had never experienced flooding found themselves waist deep in water. To make matters worse, a number of homeowners who were just starting to recover from the July 4th flood disaster became victims again.

The late Governor Frank O'Bannon requested federal assistance on September 3. President George W. Bush brought good news when he arrived in Indianapolis for a public appearance and a fund raising event. After Bush descended from Air Force One, he shook O'Bannon's hand and told the governor that he had signed the declaration.

It made residents of Blackford, Boone, Clay, Delaware, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Jay, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Owen, Putnam, Randolph and Shelby counties eligible for federal grants and loans. At press time, with applications for assistance still being received, nearly 4,000 people had applied for help with \$11 million dollars in grants and loans approved.

Work is continuing on processing assistance provided for the July storms. The latest figures show at least \$36.8 million in assistance to individuals and \$7.8 million to communities in 46 counties.

In 2002, Indiana received federal disaster assistance for flooding in April, May and June and tornadoes in September. ●

HOOSIER SAFETY PLATE REMAINS WINNER



It's becoming easier and easier to see the familiar Hoosier Safety Cardinal on Indiana roadways. As of September, it was the seventh best selling special recognition license plate out of the 48 available to motorists.

Sales figures for 2003 show a consistent increase over 2002 with 10,216 plates sold in the first nine months of the year, compared to 5,611 sold all of last year.

For each plate sold, \$25 goes to the foundation. Money raised through license plate sales is divided into five funds. Twenty-two and a half percent goes to emergency management, 22.5 percent to emergency medical, 22.5 percent to fire, 22.5 percent to building and 10 percent to a stewardship fund to promote sales of the plate.

Since the plate was introduced in 2000, \$619,975 has been raised to assist public safety projects. They include assistance with the purchase of defibrillators, educational materials for the public, as well a professionals, and safety equipment. ●

HOOSIER SAFETY Fall 2003

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**2003 ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP
AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER
COMPETITION
PRELIMINARY SCENARIO**

Thirty-four Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT and Paramedic teams were tested for their on-the-street resourcefulness, Wednesday and Thursday, September 3rd and 4th, in a mock, medical emergency scenario during the 24th Annual Governor's Cup Ambulance Competition Preliminaries. Each day's competition began with the first team at 8 a.m. and the last one at 5:30 p.m. Each team was given a 20 minute time slot. The competition was held at the old Central State Hospital grounds, at West Washington and North Tibbs Streets, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Under the direction of the Indiana State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division, the simulated medical emergency graded the competitors on their expertise, use of materials and equipment, securing the scene, quickness and effectiveness in evaluating, treating, and transporting the simulated victim. Experienced judges representing the emergency medical field in Indiana evaluated the 34 teams.

This year's preliminary scenario was a motor vehicle accident at the "Central State Park", two campers driving in a truck, tried to avoid hitting a deer, the truck skidded off of the rain wet road, and the truck hit a tree. The driver had an abrasion on his forehead, while the passenger complained of ankle pain, a burning sensation in one calf, upset stomach, and a metallic taste in his mouth. A fake-rubber copperhead snake was placed under the passenger side of the seat to simulate it had gotten into the truck cab, bit one of the victims, and caused the burning sensation and the metallic taste. The emergency medical teams treated the victims, and a DNR officer, David Reese, arrived on the scene and confirmed the snakebite and the type of snake when found.

Three teams from each of the three categories were selected to advance to the finals on September 10, which were also held at the old Central State Hospital grounds. ●



Grant Roberts and Vito Palumbo from Elkhart Fire Department Captured First Place - Paramedic



Second place Paramedic went to Joe Sears and Kenny Swafford from Fulton County EMS



Parkview Huntington's Dave Mosier and Rodney Ousley were the 3RD place - Paramedic winners

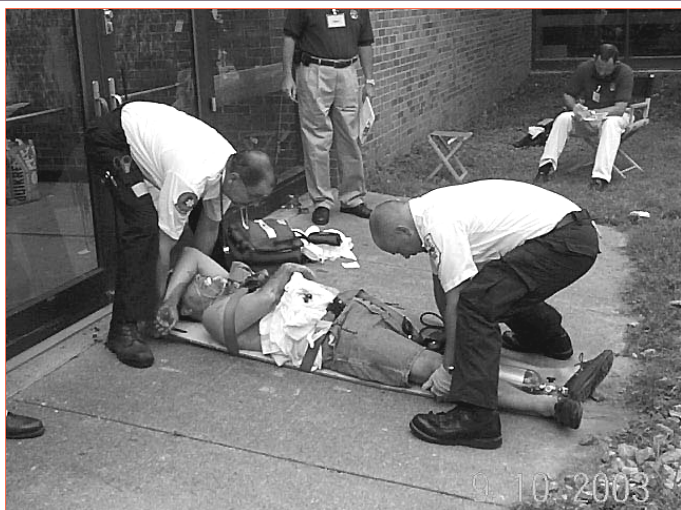
See more competition pictures on next page



Anthony Floyd and Joseph Lipcovich, of Washington County Memorial Hospital - 1st Place, Basic-Advanced



2nd Place - EMT Basic-Advanced, to Sarah Elrod and Wayne Schuetz, from Southwest Medical Services



Brian Miller and Roger Buckner, won 3rd place, EMT Basic-Advanced, from Parkview Huntington Hospital

2003 ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER COMPETITION FINAL SCENARIO

Nine Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT and Paramedic teams, three teams in each category, were again tested for their on-the-street resourcefulness, Wednesday, September 10th, in a mock, medical emergency scenario. Each team was given a 20 minute time slot in which to treat the victim(s).

This year's final competition scenario was a victim who was stabbed multiple times and was robbed by his two assailants. A passerby, who witnessed the robbery, called 911 and tried to assist the victim until medical help arrived. The victim had a large knife stuck his lower right abdomen with its handle protruding out of his blood stained shirt. The victims' moulage injuries and acting were quite convincing.

The teams were graded and the winners were announced at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference Awards Banquet, Saturday evening, on September 20th, held at the Marriott Hotel Downtown, Indianapolis.

To help make both the preliminaries and the final ambulance competition a reality, the following companies, hospitals, and state agencies contributed their equipment, ambulances, personnel, and the old Central State Hospital grounds: Rural Metro Ambulance of Indiana, (ambulances & carts), St. Francis Hospital (equipment and moulage), United Hospital Services (linens), Indiana Department of Administration (Central State), and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR officer and vehicle). The success of the annual competition was due in large part to these contributions.



Director Ralston presents plaque to Chuck Crist and members of Indiana RACES.

CUSEC BOARD MEETS IN INDIANAPOLIS

The Indiana State Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) was honored by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) Board of Directors at its September meeting in Indianapolis.

The group was cited for its work in organizing the first exercise among the CUSEC states to see if they could contact each other using the Federal National Radio System and Amateur (HAM) Radio. In the event of a major earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ), most traditional forms of communications would be disrupted, so alternatives had to be tested. The exercise was a success, with every state responding in one way or another.

Also at the meeting, CUSEC added a new member to its group of core states for the first time in its nearly 20 year history. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to grant full membership to Alabama.

CUSEC was formed in 1984 to coordinate efforts to reduce the loss of line and property in the seven states that would be affected by a major earthquake centered in the NMSZ. The charter states were Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri.

SEMA Executive Patrick R. Ralston, who serves as CUSEC's Chairman of the Board, noted scientific research shows the threat of a major earthquake extends beyond the NMSZ.

Recent events have proven the research to be correct. Ralston said, "On April 29, 2003 an earthquake in Fort Payne, Alabama near the Georgia border, that registered 4.6 on the Richter scale, was felt as far away as southern Indiana and Illinois. CUSEC bylaws call for the coordination of hazard reduction activities in all states vulnerable to earthquakes in the central United States, not just the ones near the New Madrid Fault."



Brian Wilmouth & Michael Anderson, from Franklin Township Fire Dept. captured 1st Place - EMT Basic



Second Place, EMT Basic winners were Diane Kohr and Jeff White from Parkview Huntington Hospital



The EMT Basic, 3rd Place Award went to Schererville Fire Department's Aaron Anderson and Robert Gaskill

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members of the Indiana Ambulance Association. He was highly instrumental in the formation of the Indiana Emergency Medical Services Commission.

All EMTs who enter the annual Governor's Cup Ambulance Service Competition are automatically considered for the Larry Myers Memorial Award. Participants in this competition are judged upon the following criteria for presentation of the award: dedication, performance under stress, commitment to EMS, desire to serve, and a positive mental attitude.

The 2003 Indiana Emergency Response Conference marks the 23rd Anniversary of the presentation of the Larry Myers Award.

DAVID J. EDWARDS MEMORIAL INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNER: DONALD E. HESS,
CEDAR LAKE, INDIANA**

Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana.

This award recognizes a Primary Instructor for contributions to EMS education, the community, and the promotion of EMS awareness.

AMBULANCE PROVIDER INJURY PREVENTION AWARD

**WINNER: HARRISON COUNTY
HOSPITAL EMS**

Sponsored by Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee (EMS-C).

The purpose of this award is to encourage and recognize the efforts of EMS organizations that promote an awareness of injury prevention in their communities.

DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER: CATHY ROBINSON, INDIANAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sponsored by Bound Tree Medical, LLC, Galloway, Ohio.

This year's winner, has been involved in EMS for 30 years. Cathy has served as the department's Communication's Officer since 1996. She is certified in EMD, is an active member of the Indiana Chapter of APCO (Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials) having held several offices, and is this

year's Chairperson of the upcoming APCO International Conference to be held in Indianapolis.

AMBULANCE PROVIDER PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

**WINNER: ALBANY EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES, ALBANY, INDIANA**

Sponsored by EMS SHIRTS.COM, Suffern, New York

This award recognizes an organization for its efforts to educate the public about Emergency Medical Services.

EMS FOR CHILDREN AWARD

**WINNER: JACKIE CARTER,
HARRISON COUNTY HOSPITAL EMS**

Sponsored by the Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Committee.

This award provides recognition for those contributions, which are above and beyond the normal day to day experiences when dealing with pediatrics specifically and to a responder that has made the difference in the life of a child.

COLOR PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR AWARD

**WINNER: CLINT KELLER, FT. WAYNE FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

Sponsored by Deaconess Hospitals Inc., Evansville, Indiana.

In the photograph, Brett Brown, an Advanced EMT and firefighter with the Ft. Wayne Fire Department, performs a winter weather water rescue of an individual who had fallen through thin ice.

PROVIDER AWARDS

EMS Provider awards are given in recognition of providers which provide for and promote professional growth opportunities for their employees in addition to promoting EMS awareness throughout their community. These organizations serve the community through volunteer efforts, participate in disaster planning, and work in harmony with the medical community.

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“AWARDS” *from page 6***EMT BASIC-ADVANCED
PROVIDER OF THE YEAR****WINNER: SOUTHWESTERN EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICE, JASONVILLE, INDIANA**

Sponsored by EmergiTech, Inc., Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Southwestern Emergency Medical Service maintains an active in-service program for its employees including such topics as CPR-Instructor, SIDS, Blood Borne Pathogen Instructor, Hazardous Material Instructor, Race Car Medical Technician, and Extrication. Southwestern EMS offers programs to the community that include working with nursing facilities to keep them abreast of changes in EMS skills and capabilities, assistance in organizing blood drives, performing mock accidents at schools, and free blood pressure checks. This department is active in local disaster planning and has disaster mutual aid agreements with many other response agencies. Southwestern EMS also works closely with its supervising hospital, has appointed a Liaison/Training Officer who visits each hospital and care facility on a regular basis, discussing problems, answering questions, and assisting them with their training needs.

**PARAMEDIC PROVIDER OF THE YEAR
WINNER: AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE
(AMR), EVANSVILLE, INDIANA.**

Sponsored by Deaconess Hospitals, Inc.

AMR offers many services to its employees including an internal management-training program for any employee wishing to prepare for advancement within the career field. It also gives each fulltime employee one percent of his or her salary to be used for any type of education related to EMS. AMR pays the full cost of Paramedic training and all the expenses for ACLS, BTLIS, PALS, Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), and Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) training. All paramedics are trained in an in-house designed, CORBA compliant Critical Care Transport Provider Course. AMR employees are also offered a 401K plan. AMR's Quality Improvement system is geared toward education rather than discipline. A database of special training programs and curricula enable AMR to make changes through positive means. Immediate positive and negative

feedback is given as well as an overall evaluation every six months.

**BLS NON-TRANSPORT PROVIDER OF THE
YEAR****WINNER: ETNA GREEN FIRST RESPONDERS,
ETNA GREEN, INDIANA**

Sponsored by EmergiTech, Inc., Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Etna Green First Responders conducts monthly in-service programs, holds regularly scheduled extrication classes, disaster training programs, and general fire training courses. They are currently starting EMT-Basic training and plans to upgrade to a transporting service in the future. The Etna Green First Responders also promotes EMS awareness throughout the community. It offers first aid coverage at local sporting events and sends representatives to local schools to educate the students on fire safety and medical awareness. Etna Green First Responders offers training and educational seminars to the local 4-H organizations. This department is very active in the development of emergency response and disaster plans for the county. It also serves on a county committee to implement guidelines and procedures in the event of a disaster. The Etna Green members are active in the county weather watch by sending its trucks out during severe weather so that they can sound their sirens in the event of a tornado. The Etna Green First Responders keep the station staffed and open during inclement weather as a safe haven for those who feel their homes are unsafe.

**EMT BASIC PROVIDER OF THE YEAR
WINNER: FOUR-WAY AMBULANCE SERVICE,
MENTONE, INDIANA,**

Sponsored by EmergiTech, Inc., Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Four-Way Ambulance Service maintains an active monthly in-service program. The organization offers special programs every quarter on topics such as scene safety and hazardous materials. Four-Way Ambulance Service members speak at various civic groups, pre-schools, as well as elementary, junior high, and high schools to discuss the early recognition of emergencies

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and the need to call 911. Courses offered by the department to the general public include CPR, First Responder, and first aid. The department also participates in the “Vial of Life” program. Four-Way Ambulance Service is active in county disaster planning, and it participates in disaster drills for the hospital, and Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC). This organization is complimented by the local hospital for the handling, packaging, and transport of its patients. Since Four-Way Ambulance Service is far removed from advanced life support providers, they are well aware that patient outcome is directly related to the care they give.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Individual awards are given in recognition of contributions above and beyond the normal day to day experiences. Contributions to the EMS industry through dedication, service, and leadership and to the community through promotion of EMS awareness, education, and volunteer activities are considered in the selection of the recipients.

EMT BASIC OF THE YEAR WINNER: CYNDIE MCKEE, GREENDALE EMS

Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana.

Cyndie is a volunteer EMT and serves as the treasurer for the department. Known for always giving quality care, Cyndie is certified as a Primary Instructor, teaches CPR classes, visits day care facilities to pass out information on 911, seat belt safety, and first aid, and takes an ambulance to school each semester to educate the students on the equipment that is used in pre-hospital care. Cyndie is active in the local community as a coach for various sports and a cheerleader sponsor. A full-time schoolteacher, she has been chosen to be a Teacher of Science for many of NASA's space programs and was instrumental in having her class chosen to polish the mirrors for the Hubbell Space Telescope. Even though Cyndie works full-time teaching, she still finds time to serve as Training

Officer, teach EMT courses, and make 95% of the nighttime runs for her department.

EMT ADVANCED-BASIC OF THE YEAR WINNER: PATRICIA STRICKLAND, HARRISON COUNTY HOSPITAL EMS *Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana.*

Patricia has served in EMS for eight years and is known for the ability to deal with others when they are at their worst. Patricia recognized that domestic abuse was a growing problem in her community so she completed training as a woman's advocate and domestic abuse counselor. She is also a volunteer for the Department of Women and Children office. Patricia developed a drinking and driving prevention program that has been taught to over one thousand youth. After suffering a cervical spine injury while making an ambulance call, Patricia now devotes her time serving as the departments Critical Stress Debriefing Officer. She plans to return to active duty later this year.

THE FRANK D. GILBERT, JR. MEMORIAL PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR WINNER: NICK BRATCHER, EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana.

Nick works full time for a governmental EMS service, part-time for a private organization, and volunteers as the Medical Division Chief for local fire department Basic Life Support Non-transport organization. He has been very active in bringing quality EMS education to the fire department and was instrumental in adding a second BLS Non-Transport unit to serve the local community. Mr. Bratcher provides blood pressure checks for the community and teaches CPR and first aid programs. He is considered by his co-workers to be a good patient advocate and to be dedicated to improving patient care through EMS education. Nick works as a paramedic at Gibson County EMS and American Medical Response in Evansville. ●